GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2044
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002
OLD PLANES
MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL;RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) number of Air Crashes taken place during the last three years till October, 2002;

(b) whether investigations have been conducted into the crashes;

(c) if so, the results thereof;

(d) whether a number of crashes were caused due to ageing Aircraft;

(e) if so, whether most of the Aircraft with the Government Airlines are overaged thereby jeopardising the safety of passengers;

(f) whether any scheme have been formulated to check this problem;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the rules if any about the retention of old planes in service?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a), (b) and (c):- A total of 15 Indian civil registered aircraft were involved in aircrashes during the last three years (November, 1999 to October, 2002). The details of the aircrashes and investigations conducted thereon are given at Annexure.

(d):- No, Sir. The Investigations conducted into these accidents have not determined ageing of the aircraft as the causative factor.

(e), (f) and (g):- Do not arise.

(h):- The aircraft can be operated till these are maintained in accordance with the maintenance specifications prescribed by their manufacturers and Directorate General of Civil Aviation.

ANNEXURE

ACCIDENTS OF INDIAN CIVIL REGISTERED AIRCRAFT OCCURRED FROM NOVEMBER, 1999 TO OCTOBER, 2002

Sl.No.	Date/Location	Aircrft	Operator	Fata-lities	Damage to Aircraft	Result of the investigation.
1.	17.04.2000 Mainpuri (U.P)	Bell-206B Jet Ranger VT-ETM	India Int. Airways	Nil	Destroyed	The accident was caused when helicopter hit raised embankment before coming to halt after autorotative landing, which was forced due to engine failure. Vane of stage 3 broke/librated probably due erosion and caused engine failure.

2.	17.07.2000	B-737-200	Alliance Air	60	Destroyed
	Patna (Bihar)		VT-EGD		

The accident was caused due to loss of control of the aircraft by the aircrew. The crew did not follow the correct approach procedure thereby resulting in the aircraft being high on approach. They had kept the engines at idle thrust and allowed the air speed to reduce to a lower than normally permissible value on approach. The aircrew then maneuvered the aircraft with high pitch attitude and executed rapid roll reversals. This resulted in actuation of the stick shaker stall warning indicating an approaching stall. At this stage, the crew initiated a Go Around procedure instead of approach to Stall Recovery procedure resulting in an actual stall of the aircraft, loss of control and subsequent impact with the ground.

3.	29.07.2000	Super King Aerial	05	Destroyed	
	near Mandi	Air B200 Services			
	(Himachal Pr.)	VT-EIE	Pvt. Ltd.		

The accident was caused as the pilot descended below minimum sector altitude in Instrument Meteorological Condition (IMC) in hilly area.

Air Traffic Controller, Chandigarh contributed to the accident by permitting Instrument Flying Rules (IFR) flight to descend below minimum sector altitude.

4.	21.11.2000	Microlight	Golden Glados	01	Destroyed
	near Pune	aircraft	Country Club		
		VT-UNC	Kamshet Distt.		
		Pune			

Microlight was engaged in taking photographs and was flying low over the lake water of Wadivali dam across Indari river in Pune District. The left wheel of the microlight contacted water and fell into the lake. The pilot died in the accident due to drowning while a passenger on board was rescued.

5.	02.01.2001	Bell-206	Span Air	05	Destroyed
	near Mussorie	L4	VT-SPA		
	(Uttar Pr.)				

The helicopter entered into a valley and crashed in a hilly terrain at Hatthipau enroute Dehradoon.

6. 26.03.2001 Piper Aztec Ahmedabad Nil Substantial The accident
near Ojhar, VT-AAI Aviation is attributed to
Distt. Nasik Academy aircraft impacting the
field during force
landing as both engines
shut down in flight
because of fuel starva-
tion which occurred due
to depletion of fuel in
the inboard tanks.

7. 08.05/2001 Dauphin Pawan Hans 07 Destroyed The pilots while flying
Sessa near Helicopter Helicopters in hilly terrain and on
Rupa (Ar. Pr.) VT-ELA Limited entering between high
hills during adverse
weather conditions lost
visual contact with the
surrounding terrain and
collided with a high
slope.

8. 13.5.2001 Piper Aerostar Karson Nil Substantial The cause of
Chittagong aircraft Aviation the accident was due to
(Bangladesh) VT-AKS non-compliance of
approved emergency
procedures of section
4 of the Flight Manual
by the flight crew
resulting in fuel
starvation of both the
engines.

9. 07.07.2001 Cheetah Govt. of Nil Destroyed The helicopter crashed
Amarnath Helicopter (J & K) probably due to the
(J & K) VT-EUY down draft experienced
while in final approach
for landing.

10. 30.9.2001 King Air 08 Destroyed The pilot while flying
Mainpuri (U.P) C90A VT-EEF Jindal Strips through active thunder
Limited storm at cruise
altitude encountered
severe updraft in
intense and mature
cloud formation
possibly underwent an
abnormal and abrupt
maneuver, most probably
a steep spiral dive,
resulting in inflight
breakage of the aircraft
structure on account of
aerodynamic overload
leading to total loss
of controls followed
with heavy impact with
the ground causing
fatal injuries to all
the occupants.

11. 29.11.2001 Swati VT-STO Kerala Aviation Nil Destroyed The preliminary
Thiruvana- Training Centre information on the
thapuram accident indicates that
(Kerala) the aircraft while
carrying out circuit
and landing at Thiruva-
nanthapuram crashed
after hitting coconut
tree. The Inspector
of Accident has not yet
submitted the Report on
Accident.

12. 20.01.2002 Lama SA Hima-layan Nil Destroyed The helicopter was on near Manali Helicopter Heli-services helisking flight. While (Himachal Pr.) VT-HHS (P) Limited aborting landing on a hill top,the helicopter sank and its tail guard impacted ground. Thereafter, its nosed over.

13. 21.02.2002 Bell 430 VT-MPS Madhya Pradesh Nil Substantial The pilot of the near Indore Government helicopter is reported (M.P) to be carrying out auto rotative landing after one of the engine had failed inflight and the second was not developing adequate power. During the process, the helicopter toppled over and sustained substantial damage.

14. 03.03.2002 Bell 206 Deccan Aviation 03 Destroyed The Report of the Kaikalur near Helicopter Committee of Inquiry Vijyawada VT-DAP has not yet been (Andhra Pr.) accepted by the Government.

15. 22.09.2002 near Ecquriel Million Air 05 Destroyed The helicopter was Lonawala, Pune Helicopter operating private (Maharashtra) VT-RLA flight from Amby Valley (near Lonawala) to Juhu. The helicopter crashed soon after taking off and all the five occupants received fatal injuries. There was no fire. The Inspector of Accidents has not yet submitted the Report.